

LOUDOUN COUNTY ADVISORY COMMISSION ON YOUTH
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 22ND, 2004

Members and Staff in attendance: Carol Kost, Rhonda Walker, Robin R. LaRosa, Nancy J. Lasik, Mr. Coomer, Lance Kelley, Charlene Johnson, Tim Chesnutt, Rebecca Bowman, Jessica Walker, Shannon Walker, Ajonelle Poole, Andrew Cypher, Brendan Himelright, Lauren Smallwood, Mike McMullen, Hannah Sweeny, AnneMarie Maravetz. Traci Cox.

Excused absence are: Wes Corber, Kurt Erickson, Christine Robinson, Tracy Hines, Lindsay Samuel, Sean Hampton, Monique Brown

Teen Video

The YADAPP Teen Video “Not What Ya Thought” was viewed from 7:00-7:15pm. The video features Jessica Walker, Hannah Sweeney, Shannon Walker, Lindsay Samuel and Eric Scofield. The videos theme is focused on the Dating Game where 3 contestants vie for a date with an eligible bachelor or bachelorette.

Call to Order

The meeting held at the Government Center 5th floor was called to order by Chair, Carol Kost at 7:18 pm on November 22nd, 2004.

Introductions

Carol Kost introduced and welcomed our new Potomac District Representative Nancy Lasik who was appointed by Board of Supervisor Bruce Tulloch.

Approval of Minutes

Correction: Jessica Walker was added to the members in attendance. Correct spelling in Hannah Sweeny name on 4th motion. Correct spelling in Hannah Sweeny name on Loudoun Valley Report. Correct spelling in Traci Cox name in Stone Bridge report.

The motion was made by Rhonda Walker, seconded by Jessica Walker, and unanimously approved that the minutes of the October 25th, 2004 meeting be accepted as revised.

Public Comments

Winifred Rapp a 10 year advocate for the Teen Center was present at the meeting to motivate the teens and find out why a Teen Center hasn't happened yet. Winifred suggested that the teens run the center with some guidance from the adults. She also wanted to know what happened to the “Communities that Care” program. Charlene stated that the program was a basis for many grant programs. Charlene also commented that the Youth Initiative is a grandchild from Communities that Care except this one is called STEP UP. Winifred stated that everyone at that table had talent and with each and every one working together that we can make the Teen Center goal happen. She suggested that she would like to have the 1st invitation to open the youth center. Carol Kost commended Winifred on her previous work with the Teen Center and said she would definitely receive an invitation.

Chair's Report: *Carol Kost*

Carol Kost first stated there is a vacancy in the Sugarland Run District which is Board of Supervisors Mick Staton appointee. The Youth Initiative update stated that over 500 people attended November 10th. The conference was taped by AOL. The speakers were excellent there were 5 of 9 Board of Supervisors present. The School Board Chairman John Andrews was there. Carol commended Jessica Walker, Hannah Sweeny, Sean Hampton, John Kundzins and Becky Bowman for their help during the event. Rhonda Walker thanked Becky Bowman for plugging the YADAPP Video during her speech. Becky reported that a reporter called her in reference to a comment made by the BOS on Bullying. Carol stated that if you know nothing of the comment to

just state to the reporter “No Comment”. Carol commented that after the 10th she was contacted by AOL and was told that there will be a AOL Scholarship set up for one boy and one girl for community work at \$500. Carol also stated that we need to come up with the question that Supervisor Snow asked “What would you do with \$1,000,000.?” A follow up meeting to Nov. 10th STEP UP was held at AOL about 50 people officially reported out to what was said. The steering committee will put together a strategic plan to present to the Board of Supervisors by January 4th. Carol would like 1 representative from each school to work on the 5 areas presented at the Nov. 10th STEP UP to come up with a business plan for each area to present to the steering committee before Jan. 4th. Rhonda Walker stated that ACOY needs to participate in the next stage of the project. Carol said that we need to formulate a go to group. Becky Bowman will be putting the groups together. Carol stated that on December 7th she is slated for a presentation with the Board of Supervisors. Everyone from ACOY should be in attendance when the steering committee presents their business plan in final form with dollars to the BOS on Jan. 4th. Let Carol know if you are willing to come.

MOTION: The motion was made by Rhonda Walker, seconded by Lance Kelley, and unanimously approved that the committee to work on a business plan for the Jan. 4th steering committee meet on December 20th to finalize the plan.

Lauren Smallwood distributed a brochure that she had completed for her government project. Her project was why do boys and girls between 13 and 20 use drugs and alcohol? When Lauren interviewed her classmates most responses were because they had nothing to do. So Lauren had a dream of designing a brochure for teens to join a club with activities offered at a teen center. The club was referred to “The Lounge” and the activities were swimming, lazar tag, crafts, games. Tim Chesnutt and Carol Kost commended Lauren on a great idea.

Agency Report

Lance Kelly, Juvenile Court, made a plea to all ACOY members to advise the students at their respective school to be aware of parties where there is drinking allowable by the parents. Recently in Loudoun County the police showed up at a party where 10 kids were drinking and the police searched the area to find the parents hiding out in the woods. Recently in Montgomery County a student left a party and ended up fatally hitting a tree. The police reported to the party at 2:00am and find the party was still going on with teen drinking. Lance urged everyone at the meeting to please call the police if you know of any parents having party with letting students drink.

School Report:

Broad Run

- Becky Bowman stated that the school has a new policy for teens who come to school late. When you are late you are to report to the cafeteria to write an essay on why you are late. In the meantime, you are missing your first period class. This is not a good strategy for teens who need to attend class.
- Becky Bowman also stated that they recently performed the play Romeo and Juliet and it went very well.

Foxcroft

- Jessica Walker reported that Jack Kent was the keynote speaker at Foxcroft.
- Jessica also reported that their Girls Volleyball team won the Independent School League (ISL).
- Jessica, Shannon and AJ are asking for volunteers to help with a Youth Feast at Ida Lee. It will be setup outside with booths setup and games, music, dancing. All ACOY teens will help participate and run it. The event will take place in May 2005. They have \$250 seed money to start using that for a keynote speaker. They will need to start meeting in January to start scheduling function.

Heritage

- Ajonelle Poole had nothing to report.

Loudoun County

- Andrew Cypher announced that the homecoming decorations discussed at the last meeting happened anyway and there were violations that did not get reported.
- Lauren Smallwood reported that teen punishment for missing too many days from school should not be expelling them for more days. There should be another alternative punishment set.

Loudoun Valley

- Hannah Sweeny stated that decorations were cool and the theme was the 80's. There was a projection screen on one wall with Ferris Bueller's Day Off and Back to the Future on the other wall. There were mostly freshman and sophomores there, hardly no juniors or seniors were present. There was a 5 to 1 ratio for chaperones.
- Hannah reported that they recently received Thanksgiving Baskets for the Holiday Coalition Drive.
- Hannah commended the Girls Varsity State Volleyball Champs.

Stone Bridge

- Traci Cox stated that the parking lot at her school needs to be monitored for speeding. There has been 2 accidents in a month with speeds of 35 to 40 mph. Lance Kelley suggested that Traci email the Sheriff so he is aware of the problem at ssimpson@loudoun.gov and suggest to place speed bumps in the parking lot. Lance also suggested to let Darrin Madison who is the probation officer know of her concern.
- Traci stated that football and cheerleading is still going strong at the school.
- The FBLA recently conducted a coat drive and received over 200 coats.

Manager's Report/Updates

Charlene Johnson reported that World Aids Day is Dec. 1st. Charlene requested volunteers to help bundle bookmarks and deliver to schools. The bookmarks need to be out by Monday, November 29th. The program is called "Celebration of Life" held at the Town Hall in Leesburg on December 1st at 7:00pm.

Tim Chesnutt reported that Sugarland Home Owners Association approached the PRCS to renovate the community center to bring in a teen center. Tim also reported that Cindy Welsh, Director of Parks and Rec. is retiring as of Jan. 1st and distributed a flyer for Cindy's retirement celebration located at Loudoun Valley Community Center 7-9pm on Thursday, December 9th, 2004.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55p.m.

The next meeting will be held on January 24th, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Mayne

Jackie Mayne
Acting Secretary